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THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 7 August 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement issued by the Government of the Republic of Kenya on 5 August 1996 on the imposition of economic sanctions against Burundi.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of both the General Assembly, under item 43 of the provisional agenda of the fifty-first session, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) P. R. O. OWADE
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/51/150.

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ANNEX

Statement dated 5 August 1996 by the Government of the Republic of Kenya on the imposition of economic sanctions against Burundi

Following the Regional Summit held at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, on 31 July 1996 and attended by the Presidents of the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya together with the Prime Ministers of the neighbouring countries of Zaire and Ethiopia and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, among others, and the subsequent decision to impose sanctions on Burundi, Kenyans join other countries in the region and the international community in condemning the coup in Burundi and call on all the parties, especially the armed factions inside and outside Burundi, involved in the conflict to undertake immediate and unconditional negotiations in order to:

(a) Restore constitutional order, including the immediate restoration of the National Assembly, which is a democratic institution of legality that derives its mandate from the people of Burundi;

(b) Unban political parties in the country;

(c) Unconditionally abide by the Arusha peace initiative and the Mwanza peace process.

As part of the regional effort to bring normalcy to Burundi, the Government of Kenya has issued instructions to all relevant agencies within our borders to ensure that with immediate effect all forms of communication between Kenya and Burundi, including the movement of people, goods and services by air, road and rail, are suspended.

Although the Government of Kenya recognizes that the innocent citizens of Burundi may suffer as a result of the imposition of economic sanctions, we in Kenya view these sanctions as unavoidable sacrifices needed to arrest further deterioration of the situation of Burundi.